

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st October 1898.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	25,000	24th September, 1898.	
2	"Basumati" ...	Ditto ...	15,000	22nd & 29th ditto.	
3	"Hitaishi" ...	Ditto ...	800	27th ditto.	
4	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	About 4,000	23rd ditto.	
5	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	1,600		
6	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	3,000		
7	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	3,000	24th ditto.	
8	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	26th ditto.	
9	"Sulabh Samachar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Calcutta ...	200		
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	24th to 28th September, 1898.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	2,000	23rd, 24th, and 26th to 29th September, 1898.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	200	24th and 26th to 30th September, 1898.	
HINDI.					
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Marwari Gazette" ...	Calcutta ...	400		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	6,500	26th September, 1898.	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	20th to 26th September, 1898.	
PERSIAN.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Hablul Mateen" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	26th September, 1898.	
2	"Mefta-hur-safar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	22nd ditto.	
URDU.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Darnassaltanat and Urdu Guide." ...	Calcutta ...	320	22nd September, 1898.	
2	"General and Gauharisafi" ...	Ditto ...	330	24th ditto.	
<i>Tri-weekly.</i>					
1	"Nusrat-ul-Islam" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	
BENGALI.					
BURDWAN DIVISION.					
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	572	23rd September, 1898.	
2	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	240	20th ditto.	
3	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	400	25th ditto.	
4	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,350	23rd ditto.	
5	"Pallivani" ...	Kalna ...	475	28th ditto.	
BENGALI.					
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Murshidabad ...	655		
2	"Pratihar" ...	Ditto ...	603	23rd September, 1898.	

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
URIYA.					
Weekly.					
ORISSA DIVISION.					
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Bamra in the Central Provinces.	.....	2nd August, 1898.	This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	150		
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	309	3rd ditto.	
4	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	400	30th July, 1898.	
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
PATNA DIVISION.					
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipur ...	About 600		
URDU.					
Weekly.					
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipur ...	500	23rd September, 1898.	
2	"Gaya Punch" ...	Gaya ...	400	19th ditto.	
BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.					
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	243	21st September, 1898.	
2	"Kangal" ...	Cooch Behar ...	.....	28th ditto.	
3	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	180		
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	.....	.....	This paper is not regularly published for want of type.
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
DACCA DIVISION.					
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	755		
2	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	315		
Weekly.					
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	300		
2	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	900	19th September, 1898.	
3	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	2,400	25th ditto.	
4	"Sanjay" ...	Faridpur ...	.....	
5	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	About 500	24th ditto.	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500	19th and 26th September, 1898.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.					
1	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	450		
Weekly.					
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Ditto ...	120	21st September, 1898.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
ASSAM.					
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet ...	.....	15th September, 1898.	
2	"Silchar" ...	Silchar, Cachar ...	340	2nd fortnight, July, 1898.	

Serial	Name of Newspaper	Place of Publication	Number of Copies	Year	Remarks
1	United States	Washington	100	1898	
2	Washington Post	Washington	100	1898	
3	Washington Times	Washington	100	1898	
4	Washington Herald	Washington	100	1898	
5	Washington Star	Washington	100	1898	
6	Washington Globe	Washington	100	1898	
7	Washington Journal	Washington	100	1898	
8	Washington News	Washington	100	1898	
9	Washington Record	Washington	100	1898	
10	Washington Review	Washington	100	1898	
11	Washington Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
12	Washington Union	Washington	100	1898	
13	Washington Voice	Washington	100	1898	
14	Washington Watch	Washington	100	1898	
15	Washington World	Washington	100	1898	
16	Washington Express	Washington	100	1898	
17	Washington Free Press	Washington	100	1898	
18	Washington Independent	Washington	100	1898	
19	Washington Mail	Washington	100	1898	
20	Washington Messenger	Washington	100	1898	
21	Washington News Service	Washington	100	1898	
22	Washington Observer	Washington	100	1898	
23	Washington Standard	Washington	100	1898	
24	Washington Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
25	Washington Evening Star	Washington	100	1898	
26	Washington Daily News	Washington	100	1898	
27	Washington Times Herald	Washington	100	1898	
28	Washington Post Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
29	Washington Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
30	Washington Globe Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
31	Washington Journal Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
32	Washington News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
33	Washington Record Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
34	Washington Review Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
35	Washington Tribune Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
36	Washington Union Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
37	Washington Voice Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
38	Washington Watch Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
39	Washington World Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
40	Washington Express Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
41	Washington Free Press Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
42	Washington Independent Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
43	Washington Mail Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
44	Washington Messenger Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
45	Washington News Service Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
46	Washington Observer Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
47	Washington Standard Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
48	Washington Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
49	Washington Evening Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
50	Washington Daily News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
51	Washington Times Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
52	Washington Post Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
53	Washington Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
54	Washington Globe Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
55	Washington Journal Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
56	Washington News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
57	Washington Record Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
58	Washington Review Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
59	Washington Tribune Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
60	Washington Union Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
61	Washington Voice Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
62	Washington Watch Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
63	Washington World Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
64	Washington Express Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
65	Washington Free Press Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
66	Washington Independent Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
67	Washington Mail Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
68	Washington Messenger Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
69	Washington News Service Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
70	Washington Observer Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
71	Washington Standard Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
72	Washington Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
73	Washington Evening Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
74	Washington Daily News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
75	Washington Times Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
76	Washington Post Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
77	Washington Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
78	Washington Globe Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
79	Washington Journal Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
80	Washington News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
81	Washington Record Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
82	Washington Review Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
83	Washington Tribune Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
84	Washington Union Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
85	Washington Voice Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
86	Washington Watch Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
87	Washington World Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
88	Washington Express Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
89	Washington Free Press Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
90	Washington Independent Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
91	Washington Mail Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
92	Washington Messenger Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
93	Washington News Service Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
94	Washington Observer Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
95	Washington Standard Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
96	Washington Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
97	Washington Evening Star Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
98	Washington Daily News Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
99	Washington Times Herald Tribune	Washington	100	1898	
100	Washington Post Tribune	Washington	100	1898	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

The *Charu Mihir* of the 19th September urges the necessity of holding a careful enquiry into the causes of an abnormal rise in the number of murder cases in the Netrakona subdivision of the Mymensingh district. During the five months, closing with May last, there were not less than thirty murder trials in that subdivision.

CHARU MIHIR,
Sept. 19th, 1898.

2. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September writes that it is rumoured that the Government will soon introduce the new *chaukidari* system in the Rangpur district, and observes that its introduction will have the effect of increasing *chaukidari* expenses and consequently of enhancing the *chaukidari* tax. The old system is working very well and one fails to understand why an expensive system is going to be substituted for it.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

3. A correspondent of the same paper writes that a passenger died on board the steamer *Heron*, belonging to the India General Steam Navigation Company, and his corpse was thrown overboard. The passenger was well dressed and probably had money with him. Will the Steamer Company let the public know what has been done with the belongings of the deceased passenger?

HITAVADI.

4. The *Sanjivani* of the 24th September writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

Discontinuance of police investigation in petty theft cases.

The Inspector-General of Police has passed an order to the effect that the police will not go out to investigate petty theft cases in which there is no likelihood of tracing the stolen property, because a local investigation in such cases is a mere waste of time and also serves to embolden thieves. The Lieutenant-Governor has approved of this order. This must, indeed, be good news for thieves, because they will be henceforward able to steal people's paddy, rice, salt, &c., unmolested by the police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

5. The *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September has the following:—

The Land Acquisition Deputy Collector of the 24-Parganas district.

HITAVADI,
Sept 23rd, 1898.

The provisions of the Land Acquisition Act are not in themselves oppressive, as they provide for the acquisition of land only for public purposes and for the payment of adequate compensation. But the officers who are entrusted with the execution of the law and the manner in which the law is executed often make things too hot for the public. The lands acquired are not always properly assessed, and people are not infrequently hard put to it in getting the sanctioned compensation. This has caused great discontent.

Complaints have been repeatedly made to us against the Land Acquisition office of the 24-Parganas. We publish a letter from a correspondent, with the view of drawing the attention of the authorities to the prevailing complaints. Our correspondent writes as follows:—

"One is put to great hardship in getting a final decision about the value of any land acquired. The payment of compensation is not also soon made. One does not get compensation without dancing attendance at the office from day to day. Thursday is the only day in the week when payment of compensation is made. Some are paid compensation as soon as they apply for it, while others do not succeed in getting it even after a whole day's attendance.

"Tarini Babu had a good name as a Deputy Magistrate, ut he has made himself unpopular as a Land Acquisition Deputy Collector. Harihar Babu, one of his amla, has been entrusted with the writing out of cheques. This has proved a source of inconvenience to the general public. People have to depend entirely on Hari Babu's favour. In every Court the court-fee on an application is punched as soon as the application is presented and it is at once entered in the *Seha* book. But in Tarini Babu's court a *Seha* book was never kept and is not regularly kept even now.

"In every Court it is the *peshkar* who generally puts the file of a case before the Court, but a different practice is followed in the court of Tarini Babu. As soon as an application is submitted to him, he hands it over to Hari Babu and consults him before passing an order. It is Hari Babu who explains the law to the pleaders and advises Tarini Babu as to what order he should pass on an application. People, therefore, go to Hari Babu and curry favour with him. Important documents are sometimes found missing from the files, but as no record is kept in the office of such papers, the parties concerned have to bear their loss without a complaint.

"It is the duty of Tarini Babu to keep himself well informed about the assessment of the lands acquired, but, strange to say, he leaves the assessment entirely in the hands of Hari Babu and the assessor, Mati Babu. This means great loss to the claimants. As for the assessments which are made by them, the less said the better. Lands are not also correctly measured. They are not infrequently under-measured by the assessor to the great loss of the claimants. The Court in question makes great delay in making references to the Judge. It is said that the temper of the Judge is studied before making a reference to him. The truth of our statements will be proved if the higher authorities call for and examine the files kept by the court in question.

"One word more about Tarini Babu's Court. About four or five cottahs of land belonging to Gaurhari Nath of Benimadhav Nandan and Brothers' Lane have been acquired for the Bedepara road. It is a year and a half since the land was acquired, but compensation has not yet been paid to its owner. Whenever an application is made to Tarini Babu for compensation, he asks Hari Babu why an award has not yet been made and Hari Babu says that an award has not yet been made for some reason or other, but will be soon made. This is certainly very strange. Why does not Tarini Babu take his amla to task? If a clerk on a pay of Rs. 50 is to do everything why has a Deputy Collector been appointed on a salary of Rs. 800 a month?"

"The authorities ought to make an enquiry into the above complaints of our correspondent. If such oppression can be committed and such loss caused to the public so near the metropolis in connection with land acquisition by the Calcutta Municipality, what is not done and what cannot be done in the distant mufassal? To tell the truth, the Calcutta Municipality is profiting by acquiring more lands than it actually requires and selling the surplus lands at enhanced prices. If over and above this, one is to meet with great difficulty in getting compensation owing to the negligence of the land acquisition officers, it is no wonder that discontent should be created among the general public. People are often found to give away a portion of their land to the Calcutta Municipality lest it should acquire the whole of it in order to make a profit by selling surplus land at enhanced prices. This is in itself a powerful cause of discontent, and there will be no limits to this discontent if oppression and corruption be rampant in the Land Acquisition Department.

Let an enquiry be made into the complaints against the Land Acquisition Office of the 24-Parganas. If they are found to be well founded, let the cause of complaint be removed.

Dacca Prakash,
Sept. 25th, 1898.

6. Maulvi Fuzlal Karim, says the *Dacca Prakash* of the 25th September, ought to have compensated the owner of a tin-shed at Sekharnagar, in the Munshiganj subdivision of the Dacca district, for damage caused to the roofing by his bullets. The Maulvi, it is said, fired upon a number of pigeons collected on the roof of the shed and killed three of them for his dinner.

Som Prakash,
Sept. 26th, 1898.

7. The *Som Prakash* of the 26th September has the following:—
It is settled that Mr. Stanley, the Irish Barrister, will succeed Mr. Justice Trevelyan. But how long will Government overlook the claims of Mr. Brajendra Kumar Sil? Mr. Sil has been serving as a Criminal Judge for 18 years and as a Civil Judge for 30 years. He heads the list of District Judges. Why is he, then, superseded, especially when he has been twice recommended by the High Court and the Bengal Government for promotion to the High Court Bench? Government acted very injudiciously by overlooking his claims when appointing Babu Mahendra Nath Bose, the Hon'ble Guru Das

Maulvi Fuzlal Karim, Deputy
Magistrate of Munshiganj.

Mr. Brajendra Kumar Sil's
supersession.

Banerjee, the Hon'ble Ameer Ali, the Hon'ble Mr. Stevens, the Hon'ble Mr. Pratt and Mr. B. L. Gupta, to be High Court Judges.

It may be said that Mr. Sil is only a Statutory Civilian; but the Secretary of State has ruled that Statutory Civilians are fit to hold all appointments which Covenanted Officers can hold. None but a mad man would, therefore, find any objection to the appointment of Mr. Sil to the High Court Bench when no objection was taken to the appointment of Babu Mahendra Nath Bose.

Then, Mr. Sil is eligible for promotion, even according to the finding of the Public Service Commission. Here is a correspondent's letter (in English) presenting this aspect of the case:—

"The Public Service Commission said:—"The Commission believes that the experiment has proved a success, and the evidence before it supports the view that the time has come when an advance may be made in the direction of appointing to High Court judgeships a larger proportion of persons who have held judicial offices, &c.", and still not one has been taken from the third class.

If it is the intention of Government not to take any from the third class, let that clause of the section be wiped out from the Act establishing the High Court instead of allowing it to remain and raise hopes in the minds of a class of hardworking, loyal servants and then making it a dead-letter.

Government does not hesitate to make a Joint-Magistrate, who has not tried one civil suit, a District Judge and to let him sit in appeal over the judgment of an officer of the third class experience. It hesitates, however, to make one, who stands at the top of the first grade District Judges, a Judge of the High Court and takes one below him simply because the one has signed a covenant, while the other has not.

The Chief Justice is comparatively new to Calcutta, and he has not consequently seen much of the business of the Appellate side. Did he consult his companion Justices when he sent up his nomination? We think that in a matter of this kind the vote of every one of the Judges should be taken.

The Indian newspapers have no idea of their duty. They ought to understand that it is not Mr. Sil's individual case, but it is the case of the third class. The Queen's Government decided that from the third class Judges should also be selected. Why should that be allowed to remain as a dead-letter? That is the broad question."

8. Referring to the manner in which summonses in *ex parte* cases are served by peons in the mufassal, the *Basumati* of the 29th September writes as follows:—

Service of summonses from Munsifs' Courts.

BASUMATI,
Sept. 29th, 1898.

Great efforts are made by the Calcutta Small Cause Court to serve defendants with summonses. Though people from different parts of the country live in the same house in Calcutta and are not often known to one another, and though there is every facility in the town for moving in a few minutes from one house to another and thus concealing oneself, the Small Cause Court forces the plaintiff to serve the defendant with a summons, repeatedly grants time for so doing and delivers an *ex-parte* judgment only when the defendant cannot anyhow be made to appear. In the mufassal, however poor a man may be, he lives with his family in his own house and can therefore be easily served with a summons. If the defendant happens to be away from home, summons may be delivered to any of his relatives after taking a thumb-impression of the latter for identification. There should also be no objection to granting more time in the case of non-service, care being taken not to entrust the work to the same peon every time. If this is done, it will become difficult to suppress a summons, because some man in the village must be able to speak to the defendant about it. As the matter stands at present, no one can know of the issue of a summons, except the plaintiff and the peon.

(d)—Education.

9. Many people in Bengal, says the *Charu Mihir* of the 19th September, live by writing school-books. The profits from the sale of school-books compensate for the inadequate remuneration, which is generally given to school-masters. But a Committee, it is said, has been formed of certain Government servants, which will either prepare or select text-books to be published

CHARU MIHIR,
Sept. 19th, 1898.

Preparation of text-books by Government.

by Government. Government will also purchase the copyright in books or in portions of books from private parties. The Throne should not demean itself so far as to take to the worst form of trading.

SANSODHINI,
Sept. 21st, 1898.

10. The *Sansodhini* of the 21st September wants to know why no rewards have yet been awarded to the unaided pathsalas within the jurisdiction of the Sub-Inspector of Raojan, in the Chittagong district, which sent up boys to the last reward examination. Under what authority has the District Board held back the money sanctioned in the last year's budget?

BASUMATI,
Sept. 22nd, 1898.

11. The *Basumati* of the 22nd September has the following:—

A lower primary school in the 24-Parganas district.

There is a lower primary school in the village of Ramjibanpur, within the jurisdiction of the Kulpi thana, in the Diamond Harbour subdivision of the 24-Parganas district. This school does not receive any aid from the Government, but up to 1895 the boys sent up from this school for examination were properly examined, the successful among them were granted certificates, and the *guru* was granted rewards. In 1896, the Sub-Inspector of Schools, Diamond Harbour, and the Secretary of the Ghateswara Middle-English School, proposed an amalgamation of the two schools, but the proposal was not accepted by the promoters of the primary school. This offended the educational authorities and they are in various ways harassing the authorities of the pathsala in question. In 1896, five boys and one girl were sent up by the pathsala for examination. The examination was held at Ghateswara; but, before the examination commenced, the Ghateswara school authorities represented to the officer in charge of the examination at the Ghateswara centre that the primary school at Ramjibanpur was injuring the interests of the Ghateswara school, and the boys of the former should not, therefore, be allowed to appear in the examination. This suggestion was, however, rejected; the Ramjibanpur students were examined, and all of them acquitted themselves creditably. Strange to say, however, the successful candidates have not yet been granted certificates. The *guru*, too, has not been granted any reward. In 1897, four boys were sent up, of whom three passed; but in the pass list they were shown as private students. It has been ascertained on enquiry that some of those who are against the pathsala in question were among the examiners, and they made the boys describe themselves as private students.

In 1896, 23 boys of the Ramjibanpur pathsala and in 1897, 22 boys of the same school prepared themselves for the reward examination, but no examination was held these two years. This made the *guru* suffer heavily. Since 1896 the pathsala in question has not been inspected. This has dispirited the students as well as the pathsala authorities.

The grievances of the pathsala authorities were represented to the Chairman of the District Board as well as to the educational authorities. In 1896, the Chairman wrote as follows to the *guru* of the Ramjibanpur pathsala:—“As it appears from the local Sub-Inspector's report that your pathsala is not a recognised one, you cannot have the reward for the last year.” In 1897, the Deputy Inspector of Schools wrote as follows to the *guru* regarding the question of the reward examination:—“Your school should not be examined for the rewards under the circumstances stated in Jadu Babu's report.” This Jadu Babu is the Sub-Inspector of Schools, Diamond Harbour. Babu Radha Krishna Vaidya, the *guru* of the pathsala in question, applied for a copy of Jadu Babu's report, but in vain. His protest against the Chairman's letter also has not borne fruit.

What is a “recognised pathsala”? The word is not defined in the rules and orders of the Bengal Education Department. On the contrary, we find the following passage in those rules and orders:—

“The teachers of non-stipendiary schools will be rewarded according to the efficiency of their schools and the success of their students at the examinations prescribed for the purpose” * * * These schools will be examined for rewards, either *in situ* by the Sub-Inspectors, or, where this is not possible, at central gatherings by the Sub-Inspector * * * There are two standards of reward examination. The boys passing by the standards will entitle their teachers to rewards. * * * Primary schools shall be regularly inspected *in situ*.”

The educational authorities alone know what justifies them in violating the above rules and orders. Nothing can justify the refusal of certificates to successful candidates. It is not also at all justifiable to call the students of a school "private students." It is to be hoped that justice will be done to the Ramjibanpur School.

12. The same paper understands that a committee has been appointed by the Government to consider certain points in connection with Bengali text-books. It has been proposed that a text-book in Bengali literature should contain essays on Agriculture, Zoology, Geology and Physical Science. The Government will invite Bengali writers to compete for these essays and will pay for the best essays on the subjects in question and will print the best essays and sell them cheap to students. The proposal, if carried out, will deprive the poor authors of their means of livelihood. The Government is trying its best to increase its income, but nothing short of economy will rescue it from its eternal want of pence.

BASUMATI,
Sept. 22nd, 1898.

13. The *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September writes as follows:—

The Calcutta University has earned great discredit by publishing text-books in English and Sanskrit for the Entrance Examination, and the Text-Book Committee is about to earn similar discredit by publishing text-books in Bengali literature for the primary and middle examinations. The educational authorities propose that such text-books should henceforward consist of essays on Agriculture, Zoology, Geology and Physical Science. The public will be invited to write essays on these subjects, and the Government will buy the copyright in such essays as will appear to be the best in the eye of the authorities. These essays will be published in the form of books by the Government and the profit derived from their sale will go to the public exchequer. A committee has been appointed with Mr. Pedler as President, to consider and give effect to the proposal. Most of the Members of the Committee are men not well versed in Bengali. The proposal, if carried into effect, will throw an obstacle in the way of those Bengali authors who earn their livelihood by writing text-books. Able writers will not certainly write essays for a small remuneration. Text-books written on the lines proposed are therefore sure to be very inferior things of their kind.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

14. The *Sanjivani* of the 24th September says that hitherto all mufassal students of the Calcutta Madrassa have been allowed to lodge in the second storey of the Madrassa premises without paying rent, but most of these lodgers will be, it is said, now sent to take up their lodgings in the new hostel and to pay the cost of so doing. Considering the poverty of most of the mufassal students, many of whom have to beg from door to door for their boarding expenses, the new arrangement will cause them the greatest hardship. The Madrassa Hostel was constructed for the benefit and not for the harassment, of the Musalman students. If poor students are not allowed to lodge free of cost in the Madrassa premises, as they have so long done, it would have been better not to have erected the hostel building at all. The Lieutenant-Governor should take the case of the poor students into his consideration.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

15. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 26th September finds fault with Dr. Martin for being of a rather obstinate and *zubberdust* frame of mind, and relates the case of Professor Kalipada Bose of the Dacca College. Hearing of his father's illness, the Professor went home on short leave, and when his father died, applied for a month's leave to enable him to go through the prescribed mourning and perform the *sradh*. But Dr. Martin rejected his application and, disregarding the recommendation for grant of leave given by Mr. Mondy, the Principal of the College, ordered Kali Babu to join his post at once.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Sept. 26th, 1898.

16. The *Hitiashi* of the 27th September severely condemns the proposal of Government to publish text-books for the Middle Scholarship, Upper Primary and Lower Primary examinations on its own account. The Committee, too, which has been formed is the worst possible that

HITASHI,
Sept. 27th, 1898.

could be got up to judge the merits of Bengali essays, and few really able writers will be willing to risk their position and reputation on the judgment of the men who constitute it. The work which will be done by this Committee is sure to be scandalously bad. Government ought to have taken a lesson from the bad name the Calcutta University has earned by publishing text-books for the Entrance Examination. But necessity has no law. Government wants money and does not scruple to ruin authors in order to get it. Shame! Shame! Should the *Má-Báp* Government thus take the bread out of the mouths of poor authors to increase its own income?

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SANSODHINI,
Sept. 21st, 1898.

17. The *Sansodhini* of the 21st September puts the following questions to the Chittagong District Board:—

The Chittagong District Board.

(1) Whether an abstract of the proceedings of every meeting is drawn up at the meeting or is written out afterwards by the clerks from short notes taken and then signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and recorded in the minute book? Are the resolutions of the Board recorded "in the precise form in which they are put at the meeting" as required by the law?

(2) Has the Board ever carried out the provision of the law requiring an abstract of the proceedings of every meeting to be put up in some conspicuous place for inspection by the public, &c.?

(3) Has the Board ever published the quarterly accounts of income and expenditure as required by the law?

(4) Has the Board ever published the annual accounts and returns of works undertaken and the sums expended on each work, &c., as required by the law?

(5) Did the Board draw up a supplementary budget and get the Commissioner's sanction thereto, when last year it spent money like water for clearing the roads, &c., after the cyclone and for many other purposes? Would there have been any necessity for curtailing the educational expenditure this year, if a loan had been raised last year?

(6) Whether the distribution of Rs. 200 from the District Fund in alms among the poor on the occasion of the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee was not a violation of sections 52 and 53 of the Local Self-Government Act, and whether the Examiner of Local Accounts did or did not object to the item?

(7) Was it not a violation of the law to spend Rs. 4,000 from the District Fund on the metalling of the road from the town to the European graveyard in Bibir Hât, and was not this item also objected to by the Examiner? Was it not a misuse of the fund to spend money from it for the town hospital?

18. The *Pratihar* of the 23rd September has the following:—

PRATIKAR,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

The proposed water-rate in the Berhampur Municipality.

It is estimated that the supply of filtered water will cost the rate payers of Berhampur Rs. 11,000 a year. Under the orders of the Bengal Government, a water-rate is to be levied at Berhampur on the assessed annual value of houses. We think that in making the assessment, the circumstances of the people should be carefully considered. Fears are already entertained that, as at Bhagalpur, the rate-payers will not get a sufficient supply of water even if they pay the necessary rate.

Hitherto all municipal rates in Berhampur have been assessed by the Commissioners. It is well that it has been so, for it is not possible for an outsider to know the circumstances of the rate-payers so well as the Commissioners. Government seems to be of opinion, however, that the Commissioners have not done their assessment work properly or the Divisional Commissioner would not have asked them to employ an assessor. But the employment of an assessor will be a most inexpedient and improper act. The expenditure of the Municipality is greater than its income, and many important works have to be postponed for want of money. Money is certainly needed for the water-supply but the law does not authorise the raising of such money in a heartless manner. Of the population of Berhampur, 10 per cent. may be well-off, but the remaining 90 per cent. are in abject poverty. A heavy assessment will drive all these poor people out of the town. An assessor unacquainted with Berhampur should not, therefore, be appointed.

19. The *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September has the following:—

The insanitary condition of Chandranath.

The Lodging-house Act has been enforced at Chandranath and a tax of four annas per head is levied from the pilgrims. According to the provisions of the Act, the money thus raised has to be spent for the good of the pilgrims, but, so far as our experience goes, nothing has been done to permanently improve the sanitation of the place. A tank, it is true, was dredged some time ago, but, thanks to the local authorities, its water has been made quite unfit for human use. The money which is spent every year on the occasion of the Siva Chaturdasi festival does not lead to any permanent good, and most of it goes to the pockets of greedy officials.

It was proposed to erect permanently a hospital and privies at Chandranath, to engage *mehters* for the latter and to convey the water of the Mandakini to the plain by means of pipes. But the proposal has been shelved. Water-scarcity prevails at Sitakunda. Water for drinking as well as bathing purposes is badly wanted there. There is no regular *mehter* service in the place, and there are houses in which temporary privies are erected only during the Siva Chaturdasi festival. Most of the privies are well privies. These, as well as other privies, are so many horrid hells.

Every year a temporary hospital is erected at the place during the Siva Chaturdasi festival, at a cost of four or five hundred rupees, and is sold off for Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 after the festival is over. The place, therefore, remains without a hospital almost throughout the year. Most of the lodging-houses, kept by the *pandas*, are extremely insanitary and almost uninhabitable.

Since the opening of the Assam-Bengal Railway the number of pilgrims to Chandranath is yearly increasing. The insanitary condition of the place is, therefore, a standing menace to the health of the pilgrims. Epidemics most frequently break out in the place and carry away hundreds of people.

Some time ago, Mr. Skrine, the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, induced the Mohant to pay, through Rai Kailas Chandra Bahadur, one thousand rupees for the purpose of improving the water-supply of Chandranath. No one can say what has been done with that money. The Rai Bahadur seems to be a man of great influence there, and the officials seem to be blindly guided by him.

We conclude by quoting from the letter of a correspondent, who makes the following appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor on behalf of the suffering pilgrims:—"O Lord! cast a benign look on the unfortunate pilgrims. Make some arrangement for the quenching of their thirst. Let a lasting monument be erected to your name. Let a thousand throats sing your glory. Kind-hearted as you are, do not fail to take pity on us. Do not be deluded by selfish people. In excruciating agony, we lay our grievances at your feet. Oh do not reject our prayer! We do not pray for honour or wealth, we pray only for a few drops of water to quench our thirst. We have no doubt that you will not fail to take pity on us and make satisfactory arrangements for the supply of water to the unfortunate pilgrims."

20. The same paper writes as follows:—The Municipality constructed a drain in a house and called upon the owner of a neighbouring house to pay the bill. The owner, a lady, pointed out the mistake, but the municipal employes did not listen to her and proceeded with a warrant to attach her property. The owner was compelled to borrow money and pay the bill. But she has now served the Municipality with the following notice through her attorney:—

A complaint against the Calcutta Municipality.

To the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

Re premises No. 19, Garanhatta Street.

Sir,

I understand from my client, Sreemutty Nistarinee Dasee, the owner and occupier of the above premises that, in the month of July 1897, a bill for Rs. 63-15-6, bearing date, the 10th March 1897, for certain drainage works alleged to have been executed on my client's above premises, was presented to my client for payment through the Health Department of your Corporation. My client refused to pay the same, and immediately thereafter, and on 24th July

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1897, my client herself addressed a letter to the Chairman of your Corporation, informing him that no such drainage works as are mentioned in the said bill, were ever executed, either by the Municipality or by any body else whatsoever; and she thereby demanded an enquiry, and prayed for the cancellation of that bill. Apparently, however, no notice was taken of my client's said letter, until 19th August 1893, when some officers of your Corporation, evidently from the Warrant Department, trespassed upon my client's said premises and wrongfully and illegally distrained various goods of my client to obtain satisfaction of the said protested bill, and subsequent costs, amounting in all to Rs. 76-7-6; my client thereupon had to borrow at once, at an exorbitant rate of interest, the amount demanded of her, which she forthwith paid under protest. This illegal and most outrageous step on the part of your Corporation has greatly lowered my client in the estimation of her own class people, and she has in consequence thereof suffered greatly in body and mind. I am therefore now instructed by my client to call upon you (which I hereby do) forthwith to pay to my client the sum of Rs. 76-7-6, so paid by my client under protest as aforesaid, and also the sum of Rs. 1,000, being the amount of damages sustained by her. In default whereof legal proceedings will be adopted against you without any further reference. Please also treat this notice as given under section 427 of Act II of 1888 (B.C.)

Yours faithfully,

Sasi Sekhar Banerjee,

Attorney-at-Law.

The case will be either compromised or fought out. In either case the Municipality will be put to some expense. But who is to be responsible for this expense? All this mischief is caused by the mismanagement of the Municipal office. No one would have found fault with the Municipality for a few solitary mistakes. But the mistakes of the Calcutta Municipality are numerous—mistakes which are not corrected even when pointed out. To tell the truth, there are municipal officers who do not listen to a complaint if they are not paid something.

21. The *Bangavasi* of the 24th September has the following:—

BANGAVASI,
Sep. 24th, 1898.

Sacrilegious proceedings of the
Puri Municipality.

Everybody is probably aware that certain Babu Commissioners of the Puri Municipality have girded up their loins to make a massacre of monkeys. The residents of Puri have made a petition stating that in that holy place slaughter of animals is prohibited, slaughter of monkeys in particular being forbidden by the *sastras* as well as by the custom of the country. As a result of the petition, the slaughter has been stopped for the present. The European Chairman of the Municipality is for suspending these fiendish proceedings. Every Hindu will doubtless feel grateful to him. The Babus, however, are now anxious to obtain the opinion of learned Pandits on this question. Certain stipendiary Pandits who have accepted service have come to the conclusion that monkeys are *átatáyí* or destroyers of life and property and have given it as their opinion that being *átatáyí* they can well be slaughtered according to the injunctions of the *sastras*. In places of pilgrimage like Mathura, Brindaban, Benares, Oudh, &c., monkeys are not and cannot be destroyed at the present time. Creatures possessed of a Babu-disposition, men, that is, who are incarnations of Kalapahar, are by no means rare in any country, and we do not believe that if there had been any indication, however slight, or any hint anywhere in the *sastras* justifying the act, these worthies would have hesitated to indulge in the massacre of monkeys. It is therefore now unnecessary to seek the assistance of the Pandit class for the purpose of collecting texts bearing on the question as to whether or no the slaughter of monkeys in Puri is an act which the *sastras* will permit. Be that as it may, it is a fact that a fiendish disposition has been aroused in certain Puri Babus and they must have their way. In the name of the *sastras* and by hook or by crook, monkeys must be killed; so, these animals have become *átatáyí* murderers, villains, and what not. Even the *sid* which is created in the course of fearful family dissensions is as nothing compared with the *sid* which is being shown by certain men of Puri in the matter of killing monkeys.

That the slaughter of monkeys is clearly opposed to the *sastras* is the opinion given by Mahamahopadhyaya Chandra Kanta Tarkalankar, Mahamahopadhyaya Madhusudan Smritiratna, Jibananda Vidyasagar, B.A., Govinda Sastri, Pramathanath Tarkabhusan and Krishna Kamal Bhattacharyya as well as by certain Pandits of Hatibagan. And this opinion is supported by Shankar Madhusudan Tirthaswami, the chief of the Govardhan Math in Orissa, Bamdev Misra, Godadhar Tripathi, and many other learned Pandits. Every good and respectable Hindu is sure to agree in this view.

Next comes the latrine question. A municipal latrine is being erected against the wall of the temple in Puri, on the side opposite to that on which are placed the images of Gaurangadev and his companions and followers. The work of erection is indeed stopped for the present, but it appears that it will be resumed after some time, for the latrine has not been yet demolished. Will the Hindus and Vaishnabs of Bengal remain idle after hearing this?

Babus of Puri, take care! Puri is one of the holiest places in India and is visited by pilgrims from all parts of India. If *Kalapahari* oppression is committed in Puri, the consequences will be fearful. Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Woodburn, it behoves Your Honour to be a little awake. The heat of the sand, of the dust in the feet, that is, has been more powerful, more unbearable than the heat of the sun. Reckless of consequences, the Babus, puzzled and perplexed by local self-government, are like demons inflicting agonising pain on the Hindu's heart. By so doing, they will themselves suffer no penalty or loss. It is the English Government, the Sovereign of the country, who will have to suffer the whole trouble. That the slave of slaves, the *golam*, if dressed in brief authority, will become *zubberdust* and oppressive, goes without saying; but it is your duty, O sovereign of the Empire, to restrain his hand, or you will be pained afterwards to see the heart's agony of your subjects. Lieutenant-Governor, you are wise, just and wise. Just tell us, what would have been the case if such things had been done in a Musalman masjid. The inoffensive Hindu does not suddenly lose the balance of his mind. But there is a limit to all forbearance. If that limit is passed very fearful consequences follow. What more shall we say? Our prayer is that the Sovereign of the country as you are, you will be pleased to consider the whole matter and do justice.

22. A correspondent of the same paper draws attention to the breach that has occurred in the road between Jehanabad and the neighbouring village Basantapur, in the Hooghly district, at the point where the Kana khal intersects that road. The recent floods have washed away the bamboo bridge which the local municipality had constructed over it, and people have now to wade through the water, which is very deep in many places. There have been many accidents of late and some deaths from drowning.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

23. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September writes that most of the boats which come to Calcutta from East Bengal laden with merchandise have to be towed up the rivers and there are roads on the banks of the rivers and culverts on the canal for the convenience of the boatmen who tow the boats. Many of the culverts, however, badly require repair.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

It is also complained that the *chaprasis* at the gates of the Bhangor canal extort money from the boatmen and do not allow them to pass without paying them something.

24. The Pabna correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 24th September writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

The steamer service between Kushtia and Bajitpur.

One morning, about the commencement of the rainy season, the residents of Pabna were startled by the news that the steamer service between Kushtia and Bajitpur would be discontinued, as it causes an unnecessary expenditure of public money, and that passengers would be taken to Kushtia at cheaper fare in public boats. The news caused some excitement, and the next day another announcement was made saying that both the steamer service and a boat service would be kept up, but that the latter would be cheaper

for passengers. The Magistrate thought that passengers would prefer boats to steamer. But he was disappointed. Passengers prized their lives above money, and the boats had to disappear. The Magistrate, however, secured the concurrence of the District Board and, by a stroke of his pen, discontinued the steamer service. Since then deaths in consequence of the sinking of boats have largely increased and traders are suffering heavy loss from the same cause.

The Pabna people sent a memorial to the Commissioner, but the Commissioner sent the memorial back to the Magistrate for consideration, and the Magistrate has simply filed it in his office. Thus have ended all hopes of a withdrawal of the order. The Magistrate wants to teach the people practically that boats are better suited to them than steamers. He tells them to devote the money which they would spend on a steamer to a dispensary, because the medicines dispensed from a dispensary save and prolong life!

When the Lieutenant-Governor last visited Pabna he told the people, in reply to their request for a tramway line from Pabna to Sanra, that so long as the District Board's steamer service between Kushtia and Bajitpur was kept up, there was no necessity for such a tramway. The Officiating Magistrate of Pabna has not thus hesitated to run counter to the views of the Lieutenant-Governor. It is hoped that His Honour will take the matter into his consideration.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA,
Sept. 25th, 1898.

25. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 25th September invites the attention of the Agent of the East Indian Railway to the want of a waiting-room at Tarakeswar for female passengers.

(h)—General.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Sept. 19th, 1898.

26. Referring to the release of Mr. Tilak, the *Dacca Gazette* of the 19th September writes as follows:—

Lord Sandhurst in the Poona affair.

The people of Poona are to-day happy and joyful. The mind of the officials has been freed from the nightmare of Mahratta Brahmans which has oppressed it so long. The officials are ashamed of all that they have done in their distraction. Lord Sandhurst is a high-minded man, who has corrected mistakes the moment he has seen that he has made mistakes. He has freed the people of Poona from the liability he had himself imposed upon them of paying the cost of a punitive police; he has released the Natu brothers and shown a keen sense of justice by honourably liberating Mr. Tilak, and all this in spite of so much abuse from the fire-eaters in the Anglo-Indian Press. Such strength of mind is not given to many; and that is why we say: Praised be Lord Sandhurst, praised be the British Government, near whom justice shall never lose its honour!

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Sept. 20th, 1898.

27. In an article headed "Whose is the triumph—Government's or Mr. Tilak's?" the *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 20th September writes as follows:—

Whose has been the triumph—the Government's or Mr. Tilak's?

Though Mr. Tilak was secretly released and went home without making any noise, no sooner did the news of his release get abroad than people crowded to see him. Sympathy was expressed with him for the hardships he had undergone, meetings were convened to thank Government for setting him at liberty, and in Mr. Tilak's absence his portraits were worshipped. But why this respect and regard for a convict? It cannot be that any loyal subject people should entertain such respect for a disloyal or seditious man. It is only the disloyal who honour a rebel. The way in which the people of the country are expressing their delight at the release of Mr. Tilak clearly shows that the respect in which he was held before his imprisonment has increased a hundredfold instead of suffering diminution. Those who had never heard of Mr. Tilak are glad to hear of his release. Government sent him to jail with the view of damaging his power and popularity, but it has not succeeded. Had Tilak been disloyal no one would, for a moment, have been anxious for him; on the contrary, everyone would have been glad of his punishment. The fact that everyone is glad to hear of his release shows that though he was found guilty by a Court of law, he was

not, in the opinion of those who knew him well, guilty of any offence whatever. That Mr. Tilak is a very quiet and wise man is clear from the fact that since his release he has not attended any meeting or spoken to anybody about his sufferings. In prison he obeyed the orders of Government as he is obeying them out of it. A guilty mind is never at peace with itself nor can a guilty man face the world. Mr. Tilak's peace of mind has never been disturbed and he has never felt ashamed of himself.

This is why we ask whose has been the triumph?

28. A correspondent of the *Sansodhini* of the 21st September would like to know if one of the head amla of a district, who borrows money and carries on therewith a regular money-lending business, would be considered guilty of an offence under any Government rule. If he can be so considered, Government should look up the fee-book and the index for the last two or three years kept in the Sub-Registry office in Noakhali.

SANSODHINI,
Sept. 21st, 1898.

29. The *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September observes that the new rules regarding Assistant Surgeons have somewhat improved their condition, and it is hoped that the Government will now take the case of the Hospital Assistants into its favourable consideration. Hospital Assistants are paid Rs. 20 a month. This is a discredit to the Government, because it is a great hardship to the poor Hospital Assistants. It is an insult to medical science to pay such small salaries to medical men. The Government is requested to consider the question of increasing the pay of the Hospital Assistants.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

30. A correspondent of the same paper makes a complaint against the Sub-Registrar of Baruipur, in the 24 Parganas district. The Sub-Registrar is in the habit of returning documents on slight pretexts, but he never puts down his reasons for so doing on the back of the documents. When a document is submitted for registration, the Sub-Registrar does not register it on that very day, but appoints another day for its registration. This causes the public great hardship and inconvenience. Complaints against the Sub-Registrar have reached the special Sub-Registrar of Alipore. He writes as follows in his letter No. 1343, dated the 7th September:—

HITAVADI.

"I generally receive complaints against him regarding registration of deeds. The annexed deed-of-sale executed by Panchanan Banerjee appears to have been presented before him for registration, which was duly examined by him and returned to the presentants for some minor objection. I find that there is no defect in the deed. I therefore direct that the deed be registered by him without further objection. Complaints like this against the Sub-Registrar are not desirable.

B. L. GROSE.

The 7th September 1898.

31. Referring to the two conditions which were proposed to Mr. Tilak, the *Som Prakash* writes as follows:—

SOM PRAKASH,
[Sept. 26th, 1898.

The Bombay Government and Mr. Tilak's release. No one could have accepted the second condition as it at first stood, namely, that Mr. Tilak would be sent to jail without trial if he said or wrote anything seditious in future. We really do not understand how the Government could at all make such a proposal. The amended condition, which was to the effect that Mr. Tilak would be imprisoned if he was again found guilty of sedition, was simply childish. Does not Government punish guilty people, except with their consent? The Bombay Government has really lost its head, or else it would never have made such a proposal.

If Mr. Tilak's release was ordered by Her Majesty the Queen, when did that order arrive? We think it must have come two or three months before. Why, then, was Tilak kept so long in prison, and why was he asked to submit to conditions? Did Her Majesty's order contain any proviso to that effect?

As for the first condition, we do not quite see what object the Government has gained by laying down that Mr. Tilak will not be able to take part in any meeting or celebration in his honour. Mr. Tilak could not possibly be present

at every meeting held in his honour in any part of the country. It, therefore, seems that Government has not yet recovered from the panic caused by the Poona tragedy. Lord Sandhurst should take leave for a short time.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
Sept. 22nd, 1898.

32. According to the *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 22nd September, the Government has come to understand that the Calcutta Municipal Bill will do good to the people of Calcutta, who are, however, not satisfied with it. When the Bill will be passed into law, there is hardly any doubt that the other municipal towns in India will, as a matter of fact, be governed by it. It may, therefore, be said that the Bill is intended not for Calcutta alone but for all India. Before the Bill comes to be passed, a deputation consisting of both Hindus and Musalmans, ought to be sent to England for the purpose of laying before the British Parliament the objections of the Indian public against it.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

PRATIKAR,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

33. The *Pratihar* of the 23rd September has the following:—
The *aus* crop has been greatly damaged in the Murshidabad district in the heavy rains and floods, and the prospect of winter crops, too, is not good. The paddy in the low lands is under water. Men and cattle in many parts of the district are suffering on account of the floods. There is water everywhere. The heavy rains have prevented the cultivators from threshing the *aus* paddy which has been reaped and stacked. But the raiyats will not be able to pay their rent, so long as they do not sell their paddy; and so the zamindars will be unable to meet the Government demand. There are villages where people cannot stir out of their houses, except in boats. Huts and houses are falling, and the people are wailing.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

34. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 24th September writes as follows:—
Before the famine of 1896, money was cheap in Chittagong. Small loans could be easily had at an interest of one pice or a pice and a-half per rupee a month. But since that famine the rate of interest has increased enormously. Loans are now extremely difficult to get at a smaller interest than one to two annas a rupee a month. Formerly, a money-lender did not hesitate to lend one-third of the value of any silver article, and one-half of the value of any gold article which might be taken to him to be pawned, but he would not now advance more than one-sixth or one-eighth of silver articles and one-third of gold articles.

Since 1896, either drought or flood has seriously affected the crops every year in Chittagong. The mass of the people in Chittagong usually have little saving to fall back upon in case of necessity. They can at most fight with one bad year; but no one has cared to enquire how they have managed to live for the last two years and a half. Everything they possessed has been pledged with the money-lender, and a very large number of low-class Musalmans have gone over to Burma and settled there in the hope of being able to earn their livelihood. The Chittagong peasant will now consider himself fortunate if he gets one meal a day for himself and family. The thought that he has money-lenders to pay off cannot at all arise in his mind.

Will not the officials open their eyes and see how miserable is the condition of the people of Chittagong? Cannot their subjects hope for a grain of their sympathy? We are sure that if our words reach the ears of our kind Lieutenant-Governor, His Honour will be unable to remain indifferent. His kind and noble heart will certainly be moved by the silent suffering of men who would rather die of hunger than complain loudly to the authorities.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHARU MIHIR,
Sept. 19th, 1898

35. The *Charu Mihir* of the 19th September gives the following estimate of the work done by Mr. A. M. Bose in England:—
The work done by Mr. A. M. Bose in England. We do not expect any other result from the political agitation made in England by Mr. A. M. Bose. We set a value upon every action which serves to increase the strength

of our minds, which makes our national life stronger. It is not yet time to expect any direct result from such agitation. Ananda Mohan has not only spent his own money and physical energy for us in England; he has shown great fearlessness in what is a very bad time for India. Lord George Hamilton must have felt crest-fallen to see the fearlessness of the leading men of our country.

36. The *Hitavadi* of the 23rd September has the following:—

What makes a man a leader of his country.

Genius, erudition, intelligence, self-sacrifice—these are the qualities which make a man a leader of his country. Poor men have often become leaders of men, while millionaires have died unnoticed and unrecognised by the public. If some of the Members of the British Indian Association had taken this fact into their consideration, it would not have been necessary for us to dwell upon this unpleasant subject.

To tell the truth, few, like Ram Gopal Ghosh, combine in themselves wealth and genius. Most of those who have been known to lead zamindars of Bengal were not men of means. Men like Haris Chandra, Rajendra Lall, and Kristo Das were the leading lights of the British Indian Association. It will not do to ignore their services so soon. In this country, wealth alone cannot make a man a leader. No one will recognise as a leader one who has nothing but wealth.

Those who aspire to be the leaders of their country must prove their worth. Truckling to officials, flattery and sycophancy—these do not make a leader. If you want to be a leader, let the public know whom you lead and what entitles you to their leadership. No one will respect or obey you as a leader if it be your sole care to please the officials and if you do not hesitate even to injure the best interests of your country in order to feather your own nest or to gain some small advantage for the particular community to which you belong.

Think of the past glory of your Association. Think what you were and what you have become. Compare the present condition of your Association with its condition in the past—its present time with the time when you had men among you who felt and thought for their country, when it was an honour and a pride to befriend the poor and help the helpless. That was a time when it was not considered a qualification for leadership to help the officials in their indulgence in luxury, to celebrate their in-coming and out-going and to be liberal only in erecting memorials to departing officials. To contribute to a Lady Dufferin Hospital Fund or a Strath Naira Memorial Fund did not in those days make a man famous for charity. But what a fall, what a mournful change we have witnessed since that time!

Just think what the British Indian Association was when the *Hindoo Patriot* was first started. The words and example of the young Brahman who gave life to that paper, whose extraordinary genius and unselfish exertions for his country were the admiration of Lord Canning, have ceased to influence and guide you; you have forgotten even his unmixed love and affection for your Association. You perhaps think that you have paid your debt of gratitude to him by fixing a tablet to the door of your office bearing the words "Haris Library." But tell us, if a single Indian looks up to you with that earnestness and gratitude with which the millions of raiyats oppressed by indigo-planters looked up to that young Brahman, who was a pillar of strength to your Association. The *Patriot*, which he fed and nursed with his life-blood is now in a sorry plight. Haris and Kristo Das are dead, but the *Patriot* lives—the skeleton of its former self. It still drags on its miserable existence under the guidance of a Rai Bahadur.

37. The *Bangavasi* of the 24th September has the following:—

Sir John Woodburn.

The Hindu believes that there is an element of Divinity in the composition of the Sovereign.

This is what he is taught and this is what his *sastras* teach. The Hindu is sorry that the English Government does not allow him to look upon his Sovereign in that light. A few sweet words spoken by the Sovereign are enough to make his heart overflow with love and *bhakti*. Take an example. The other day Sir John Woodburn went to open the Bora plague hospital in China Bazar. His sweet words melted the hearts of the Marwaris, and the remark was openly made by them that the Lieutenant-Governor's action and behaviour were

HITAVADI,
Sept. 23rd, 1898.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

such that they no longer looked upon him as an English official, but that they were disposed to regard him as their own real Sovereign, as a part incarnation of Divinity. These words really came from their hearts. It behoves those English officials who desire to rule India with rigour to take a note of this incident, small and trifling though it be. A thousand rigours will fail to accomplish what love and affection can achieve.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 24th, 1898.

38. Referring to the meeting held at the Town Hall to present an address to Mr. A. M. Bose, the same paper write as follows:—

We confess we were very much pained on that day. After the preliminary cheers were over and those present had taken their seats, we saw—and the sight pained us—that Mr. Bose was standing on the platform, faultlessly dressed like a European, hat in hand. We saw Babus Surendranath and Kali Charan in *choga* and *chapkan* standing by his side and talking, with a smile on their lips. With the exception of one or two England-returned Babu-Sahibs, the assembly in that spacious Hall were all dressed in *dhuti* and *chudder* and *choga* and *chapkan*; the only person wearing English dress and standing like a Feringhee was he for whom were intended all these preparations, all this enthusiasm, and all this welcome. O Bengali! lay your hand on your heart and say—was it not a sight that might wound the Bengali's heart? Think of God, Who sees all things and say—must one who would love his own people, eschew that people's language, costume, food, manners and customs, practices and usages? Must a well-wisher of his people and country dress like a Feringhee? It may not be reprehensible to wear hat and coat in consideration of any profession a man may be following, for the purpose of earning money. But why should brethren, when they are amusing and enjoying themselves and talking over matters which affect their weal and woe, wear, before a gathering of their countrymen, that monstrous and uncomfortable and out-landish dress and stand leaning on the left? Can love for his own people find a place, or is it possible for love for his own people to find a place in the heart of the man whose whole heart and disposition are so thoroughly in love with things foreign?

The speeches which were made at the meeting by Babus Kali Charan and Surendranath put us in mind of the proceedings of the Mutual Admiration Society in England. Praise of Mr. A. Mr. Bose is neither becoming nor graceful when it comes from either of those gentlemen. These three men are like three flowers growing on one and the same stalk. Such flowers, indeed, kiss one another in a breeze, but one should not with a flourish of trumpets call in strangers to witness such mutual admiration. It is a sight which should make those admirers happy who can regard it with an eye of affection; but for the stranger to have to witness it is nothing short of an infliction.

The address is very skilfully drawn up and the writer of it is a clever man. But, however harsh and painful this statement may be, we are constrained to say that, with the exception of a few educated Babus of Calcutta and the Brahmos of the Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, the eight hundred thousand residents of the metropolis have had nothing to do with this affair. The address says that it is a document voted by the citizens of Calcutta in public meeting assembled. This is not wholly true. The fact is, in matters like these, with the exception of a few interested persons, the public of Calcutta, or, for the matter of that, of India, have very little concern. This scheme of emancipating the country by visiting England is one which our countrymen do not understand—will never be able to understand. That a native should dress like an Englishman and make an exhibition of his patriotism in the English language is a thing which no Hindu or Musalman, which no man, in fact, worthy of the name, will ever be able to understand. And it is because the people of this country do not and cannot understand all this that the *Bangavasi* has never been able to support the Congress or its programme of work.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPKA,
July 30th, 1898.

39. The *Utkaldipika* of the 30th July notices the proceedings of the Barrackpore murder case, and states that the Chief Justice of the High Court has created a favourable impression in the mind of the public by his charge to the jury and by his sense of justice.

40. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 3rd August regrets to notice the spread of cholera in Balasore town. Already some men and women have died of the disease.
Cholera in Balasore town. *URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD, Aug. 3rd, 1898.*
41. The same paper complains of want of rain-water and apprehends that unless it rains soon and heavily the standing rice crop must wither.
Crop prospects in Orissa. *URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD.*
42. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* of the 2nd August requests the authorities to institute an enquiry into the events which led to the murder of one Police Inspector and two constables by an excited mob at Raigur, at a time when the Raja and Dewan of the Feudatory State had proceeded to Nagpur on an important business.
Murder of policemen at Raigur. *SAMBALPUR HITAISHINI, Aug. 2nd, 1898.*
43. The same paper is loyal enough to notice the late illness of the Prince of Wales with sincere regret.
The illness of the Prince of Wales. *SAMBALPUR HITAISHINI.*

ASSAM PAPERS.

44. The *Paridarsak* of the 15th September says that the owners of cows which are sent to the pound by the Sylhet police, are subjected to a double fine. They have to pay in the pound the usual prescribed fine and they have to pay another fine which a Magistrate imposes upon them. This is causing great hardship to owners of cattle. If this course is persisted in, people will find it impossible to keep cows, and milk will become extremely dear in Sylhet. On the occasion of Mr. Cotton's last visit to Sylhet, he was apprised of the grievance, whereupon he removed it for a time. Twice fining, however, has been revived, and it is hoped that Mr. Cotton will kindly see that the practice is abolished for good.
Double fine for impounded cattle in Sylhet. *PARIDARSAK, Sept. 15th, 1898.*
45. The same paper says that when, on the 16th September last, a boat with eleven passengers, unable to maintain its equilibrium on the waves produced by a passing steamer, sank off the Channighât in Sylhet, the Head-constable Abhay Chandra Palit and some other police officers, who were present near the ghât, did nothing to help the passengers, who, fortunately, reached the bank safe, as they all knew how to swim. Another constable, who was standing at some distance, did, it is true, go to the help of the men with a boat, but that was when they had nearly reached the bank. It is hoped that the authorities will take due notice of the conduct of these policemen.
A complaint against certain policemen of Sylhet. *PARIDARSAK.*
46. The same paper has the following:—
A conversation between the Superintendent of the Sylhet Jail and the editor, *Paridarsak*. *PARIDARSAK.*

A JAIL FARCE.

Jail Superintendent ... } Dramatis personæ.
Editor of the *Paridarsak* ... }

Scene:—Sylhet town, the road to the north of the church.

ACT I.

SCENE I.

Ed., P.—(On meeting the Jail Superintendent, who is driving, salutes him respectfully in the European fashion by taking off his cap.)

J. S.—(Reining in his horse.) Well, Sir, what is it you have taken to writing against the jail? The jail administration has been greatly improved, but you won't give up complaining against it.

Ed., P.—(With an astonished look.) We publish only what we know to be true and correct. We do not mean to praise or blame any particular person. We always praise what deserves to be praised and we blame what ought to be blamed. Do we only point out the faults of the jail administration and never praise what is deserving of praise therein?

J. S.—(With a frown.) I don't care for your praise. You and Kristo (Babu Krishna Chandra Sanyal, a non-official jail Visitor) have been writing against the jail, but what harm can you do me or Ram Kumar (the jailor)? You wrote that a certain prisoner had been given no passage money on release? That is false. The books show that the fellow was given two annas. Your statement that a prisoner came into jail with clothes worth four or five rupees is equally false.

Ed., P.—We publish what released prisoners tell us about their miseries and grievances. There is no reason to disbelieve them.

J. S.—(Nettled, and slackening the reins of his horse.) Why do you believe everybody? Why did you not ask me? Your officious writings will achieve nothing. I will speak to Davis (Inspector-General of Jails) and your writings will be simply *pooh-poohed*.

[*The curtain falls.*]

The above is not a product of the writer's brain, but is a true description of an incident which actually took place. It is enough to show what stuff the Jail Superintendent of Sylhet is made of, and what sort of explanations he gives to his superiors when any complaints against his administration of the jail are brought forward. It is hoped that the ruler, who has appointed non-official jail Visitors and introduced many other reforms in the jail administration of Assam, will kindly enquire how far the rules introduced by him have been carried out in the Sylhet Jail.

47. The same paper contains the following in English:—

The Assam Education Department.

In a previous issue we criticised the Resolution of the Chief Commissioner on the amalgamation of Sub-Deputy Collectors and Tahsildars in one graded list. The Resolution shows how sincerely our present beloved ruler sympathises with the hopes and aspirations of the educated youths of the Province. The reform which the above Resolution has effected was much needed and it has indirectly furthered the cause of education by opening out a fresh field for the employment of our graduates. The last issue of the *Assam Gazette* has notified the appointment of two of our graduates as Sub-Deputy Collectors, rendered necessary by vacancies in the old list of tahsildars. The Local Boards are to be reconstituted. The police force, if we are correctly informed, is going to be reorganised on a better basis. So, everywhere the reforming hand of the able and sympathetic administrator is visible. The material prosperity of the Province has engaged Mr. Cotton's attention since the beginning of his assuming the reins of Government. It is hardly necessary to multiply instances of the ability and sympathy with which Mr. Cotton has been administering this sickly Province committed to his fostering care. Our purpose to-day is to invite our revered ruler's attention to the condition of the most neglected department of his administration, and, without further introduction, we shall begin our subject.

The Education Department has two branches—the instructional and the inspectional—which are, unlike—Bengal, quite distinct in Assam. The Subordinate Educational Service is composed of 15 officers, of whom 11 are Head-masters and 4 Deputy Inspectors. On reference to the Provincial Civil List it will be seen that the Head-masters are divided into four classes and the Deputy Inspectors into three. The pay of the Head-masters is progressive, rising by annual increment, while that of the Deputy Inspectors is not so. Now, we submit that, in our humble opinion, this bifurcation of the department serves no useful purpose. Chances of promotion of the officers of this department are very few and far between. We know of very deserving officers continuing in the same grade for about a decade, owing to absence of vacancy in the higher grade. But this division of the department into two branches makes the chance of promotion still more remote. We should even think that there is administrative difficulty in such a division. If a Deputy Inspector, for instance, should consider a transfer to the teaching line desirable for the sake of his health or other personal grounds, difficulty, we beg to submit, would arise in providing him at once with a post in the other branch. Similar difficulty might

arise should a Head-master, tired of a sedentary life, desire transfer to the inspecting line. We see no difficulty in grading Head-masters and Deputy Inspectors in one amalgamated list. Such an amalgamation will, in our opinion, enhance the efficiency of the department. As we can conceive of no reasons which necessitate having two distinct lists of instructing and inspecting officers, we hope Mr. Cotton will be pleased to take this matter into his consideration.

The Provincial Educational service of Bengal is composed of 8 classes. The pay attached to the first class is Rs. 700 and that to the 8th class is Rs. 150. In the 5th and 6th classes, with Rs. 300 and Rs. 250 as pay, occur the names of several Head-masters and Assistant Inspectors. But there is no Provincial Educational Service in Assam. The Subordinate Educational Service of Bengal has 10 officers in the first class and 25 in the 2nd class. The pay of the first class is Rs. 250 and that of the 2nd class Rs. 200. Again, officers of the Subordinate Service are eligible for promotion to the Provincial list for meritorious service.

May not the Assam Subordinate Educational Service be reorganised on the model of the Bengal service? Such a reorganisation, we beg to submit, is feasible without entailing at present any considerable additional expenditure on the administration. That such a reorganisation is very necessary and that it will improve the position of the service, will be admitted on all hands. We take the liberty to submit the following scheme for the consideration of Dr. Booth and the Chief Commissioner.

There are at present 15 officers in the Assam Subordinate Service drawing about Rs. 2,200 a month. These officers may be classified on the model of the Bengal Subordinate Service, thus:—

Class	I	...	...	(1)	250	250
Class	II	...	...	(2)	200	400
Class	III	...	...	(2)	175	350
Class	IV	...	...	(3)	150	450
Class	V	...	...	(1)	125	500
Class	VI	...	...	(3)	100	300
				—	—	—
Total		...	15		2,250	
				—	—	—

A reference to the Assam Civil List will show that there may be some difficulty in at once giving effect to this reorganised classification. For instance, there are now 4 officers drawing Rs. 200, including the missionary gentleman who is Head-master of Shillong. To obviate this difficulty, one post may be kept vacant in the 3rd Class. Likewise, one post may be kept vacant, if necessary, for the present, in the 4th Class.

It is well known that the Sylhet High School shows as good, if not in some cases better, results at the Entrance examination as the Bengal Collegiate Schools, including the Hindu and Hare Schools. A comparison of the results of the Entrance examination of the last 10 years may satisfy anyone who may question the correctness of our statement. The Sylhet Head-master has been on the same pay, if we mistake not, for the last 12 years. Does he not deserve promotion now? Had Sylhet still formed a part of Bengal he would have got now at least Rs. 250, if not Rs. 300. But we do not intend to-day to discuss the claims of individual officers.

Dr. Booth is a distinguished member of the Indian Educational Service, who will, we hope, signalise his administration of the Assam Education department by introducing this much-needed reform. Mr. C. B. Clarke while holding this office did all he could to improve the status of the department and he met with some success. Dr. Booth has not yet done anything whereby his administration of the department may in future be looked back upon with feelings of gratefulness. We believe his recommendation will carry great weight with our popular Chief Commissioner.

We shall revert to this subject in a future issue. We have a great deal more to say about it.

PARIDARSAK,
Sept. 15th, 1898.

48. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the bad condition of the steamers which ply between Markuli and Sylhet *via* Chhatak. Both the tops and bottoms of these steamers are leaky and their machinery is in so worn-out a condition that they can hardly make more than 5 miles an hour, and scarcely ever reach their destination at the appointed time. The lives of the passengers who travel in them are also in danger. It is hoped that the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet will have this state of things remedied.

PARIDARSAK.

49 The same paper says that as the Assam Government is building quarters for the Deputy Commissioner, the District Judge and the Police Superintendent of Sylhet, it should see its way to building quarters also for the Subordinate Judicial and Executive officers, who have always found it difficult to procure suitable houses in a place like Sylhet, especially since the last earthquake, which demolished the pukka houses which were built for the Munsifs by Babu Lok Nath Sarma.

PARIDARSAK.

50. It appears to the same paper, from the report of the Sanitary Commissioner, that malaria has commenced its fearful ravages in Sylhet, a place formerly known for its salubrious climate. Last year, the death-rate from fever in Sylhet was 31 per thousand. This is something appalling. The death-rate even from the plague in Bombay in 1897 was only 12 per thousand. In last June, when plague, fever, and cholera were all claiming their victims in Calcutta, the death-rate there did not exceed 24 per thousand. The Sanitary Commissioner has offered no explanation of this unusual phenomenon. But the Chief Commissioner seems disposed to connect it with heavy rainfall. The writer, however, fails to see how that can be done, considering that the rainfall as registered in Cachar was less in 1897 than in 1896, but the mortality from fever in 1897 about four times as high as in the year preceding. Scientists, too, who have made malaria their special study, say that excessive rainfall destroys malarial germ instead of helping its growth. If excessive rainfall had been the cause of malarial fever, Sylhet would never have been a healthy place, because its rainfall has always been heavy. The true cause of the malarial outbreak in Sylhet seems to lie elsewhere. Anybody going along the public roads in Sylhet in the rainy season must have observed the unequal levels of the water on the two sides of the roads. This is due to obstructed drainage, and it is the sole cause of the dampness of the soil and the outbreak of malarial fever. Mr. Odling, the eminent Engineer, held this view, and it is well known that the drainage of Sylhet has of late been much obstructed by the construction of new roads and railroads. It is hoped Government will make a careful enquiry on the subject.

PARIDARSAK.

51. The same paper has the following in English :—

Disposal of appointments in the Assam Secretariat.

We are glad to observe that under the *régime* of Mr. Cotton, the educated natives of the Province are receiving their due share of his attention in the appointments of Sub-Deputy Collectors and Extra-Assistant Commissioners. It goes without saying that the appointments in the Provincial and Subordinate Services, the lowest of which carry a salary of Rs. 100, are the loaves and fishes in the Government service and should be filled with good men of education and respectability, and Mr. Cotton has not been slow to recognise such men in Assam.

We know that the Chief Commissioner has gone up to the Government of India with proposals for the revision of rules for admission into the Subordinate Civil Service, one of the chief grounds being to "encourage the admission of natives of the Province into the service." (Paragraph 7 of the Chief Commissioner's Resolution No. 5941—579, dated the 1st August 1898, published in the *Assam Gazette* of the 6th *idem*). Thus, while the Chief Commissioner is so anxious to take natives of the Province in the Subordinate Civil Service, in the appointments which are made either by himself or his Chief Secretary we are sorry to see that the ruling that "other things being equal, preference will be given to the *bonâ fide* natives of the Province" is sometimes violated in the case of vacancies among clerkships in the Secretariat, which are probably filled up by the Superintendent or the Assistant Secretary. A vacancy having

lately occurred in the Secretariat in the grade of Rs. 40, choice has fallen upon one Tarakeswar Das Gupta, a clerk of the office of the Director of Land Records, Bengal. We wonder how the authorities recruit men from Bengal, even in view of the fact that at present Assam does not lack qualified deserving men for the Provincial and Subordinate Services, not to speak of clerkships. Of course it may be that the gentleman named above has a patron here in some one of note and influence, but this is not the reason why the Superintendent or the Assistant Secretary should be misguided.

The matter would not have been serious had it not been for the fact that there are men in the office who have been patiently serving for three or four years on Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 a month with good reputation. Besides, there were also natives of the Province who were candidates for the post and were equal in educational qualifications to the gentleman indented for from Bengal.

It is, however, hoped that Mr. Cotton will once turn his eyes in this direction so that justice may not be sacrificed for nepotism in future. What we want at the hands of our benign Ruler having an Argus-eyed vision is only "Justice"—"fair field and no favour."

52. The *Silchar* for the 2nd fortnight of July is sorry to hear from an officer of the Silchar Public Works Department that the employés in that Department are in the habit of black-mailing all contractors for the purpose of getting up feasts and entertainments. The contractors who have to receive their money through these men have no alternative but to please them.

SILCHAR.
Second fortnight
of July, 1898;

53. The same paper says that, considering the paucity of post offices in Assam, it will be a boon to the people if some branch offices are opened in the Province and placed under the charge of school-masters and pathsala *gurus*, as in Bengal. The establishment of such branch offices will increase postal revenue, besides enabling poor school-masters to earn something above their meagre salary.

SILCHAR.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 1st October 1898.

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(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

(f)

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